

Juvenile Justice Improvement Committee  
Judicial Conference of Indiana

**Minutes**  
January 5, 2001

The Juvenile Justice Improvement Committee of the Judicial Conference of Indiana met at the Indiana Judicial Center on Friday, January 5, 2001, from 12:00 noon - 3:00 p.m.

1. Members present. Christopher L. Burnham; W. Timothy Crowley; Steve David; Lynn Murray; James W. Payne; Julian L. Ridlen; Magistrate Paulette Stagg; Viola J. Taliaferro; and Stephen M. Sims, Chair.
2. Staff present. Jeffrey Bercovitz and Anne Jordan provided the committee with staff assistance.
3. Guests present. Ms. Francie Hill and Mr. Eric Vermeulen were also present.
4. Minutes. The minutes for the meeting of the committee on December 7, 2000 were approved.
5. Retention schedules. The committee discussed a letter from Mr. John Newman requesting comment on revisions to retention schedules for juvenile records. The committee agreed by consensus JD, JS, JT, JM, and CHINS should be separate categories on the schedule, records should be kept at least 5 but not more than 10 years, records for waiver and direct file cases should be sent to the adult court and kept with the adult record, materials kept with the juvenile files, e.g. welfare and school records, should be destroyed along with juvenile records for the particular case type involved, and ages should be uniform in retention schedule.
6. FSSA. Eric Vermeulen made a presentation about the payment of secure detention costs for children. He distributed draft No. 5 and noncode language for implementation. The committee members resolved that the Family and Children's Fund continue paying for services for children and parents. The committee members made the following revisions to draft No. 5: (1) IC 31-40-1-2 be amended to read as follows: (a) The county shall pay from the county family and children's fund the cost of: (1) any services ordered by the juvenile court for any child or the child's parent, guardian, or custodian, ~~other than secure detention~~ except for the cost of placement in a juvenile detention facility; and (2) returning a child under IC 31-37-23; (2) All changes will be effective upon passage; (3) "as ordered by the judge" will be added where probation officers are required to collect information; and (4) Proposed (a) and (c) on page 3 of draft no. 5 be removed.
7. Family court. Ms. Francie Hill distributed two handouts: Focus of Family Court Project and Principles of the Indiana Family Court Project. She reported the Family Court Pilot Project would have four focus groups to evaluate the concept of family courts in nonpilot project counties. A survey will be conducted afterwards. Mr. Jeff Kuhn will conduct the focus groups. The committee agreed to cooperate and assist the evaluation process.

8. Interstate Compact on Juveniles. Mr. Bercovitz reported he received a letter from Judge Payne concerning the Interstate Compact on Juveniles. He distributed a handout entitled "Interstate Compact on Juveniles" by the Office of Juvenile Delinquency Prevention. Judge Payne explained he wished to learn more about how juveniles moving across county and state lines relate to this and other compacts. For example, although the compact provides that home studies for transfers should be completed in 30 days, they rarely are done in time. The committee discussed a checklist of contacts for various concerns in this area, e.g. runaways and that the Benchbook committee might assist in this area. The committee agreed to invite Mr. Bob Champion to the next meeting of the committee.

9. Next meeting dates. The committee agreed to meet again on the following dates: Friday, February 2, 2001, March 2, 2001, May 4, 2001, June 1, 2001, from 12:00 noon - 3:00 p.m. and Wednesday, September 12, 2001 from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon in conjunction with the judicial conference. Mr. Bercovitz reported that no meetings would be held at the December conference since it will be held during one day.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey Bercovitz, Director  
Juvenile and Family Law